

Questions from Councillors

CQ1

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

The Portfolio Holder will be aware that one of the budget savings put forward by the Children's Services Directorate is to return looked after children to their birth families on the rationale that this will reduce longer term care costs. Can the Portfolio Holder detail what safeguarding measures will be put in place to ensure that the reliance on savings from this proposal does not lead to the welfare of looked after children being compromised?

CQ2

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Could the Portfolio Holder confirm whether Enviroenergy has now repaid the £15.7m interest free loan owed to the Council as per its last set of filed accounts at Companies House?

CQ3

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Can the Portfolio Holder confirm how much the Council spent on its recent legal action against Barclays Bank in respect of LOBO loans taken out by the Council?

CQ4

Question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Deputy Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Could the Portfolio Holder detail what action the Council is taking to counter dis-information about the effectiveness and side effects of the Covid-19 vaccine and whether she shares my disappointment and concern about the effect this may be having on vaccine take up amongst the more clinically vulnerable groups in our communities?

CQ5

Question to be asked by Councillor Kevin Clarke of the Portfolio Holder for Employment and Community Protection at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

In 2019 the Labour Group won a majority in this Council on the back of its 2019-2023 Manifesto. In this Manifesto they committed to "maintain 100 CPOs (Community

Protection Officers) to work across all areas of the City” and to protect that number from cuts of any kind. The Portfolio Holder should be reassured that we in the Independents agree wholeheartedly with the Manifesto’s alleged belief that Community Protection Officers have made important contributions to achieving a fall in anti-social behaviour across the City. It is therefore with sadness that we note that less than two years into that Manifesto, the Council is proposing to cut the number of CPOs by a full 20%, from 100 to 80. Can the Portfolio Holder inform us what impact these reductions are predicted to have on how the CPOs currently operate and what actions are being taken to mitigate this impact?

CQ6

Question to be asked by Councillor Kirsty Jones of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Democratic Services at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

We register that this Council is in a financial situation that requires firm and immediate action, and we further register that some of those actions are going to be difficult for everyone involved. With this in mind however, we feel that the Council could be doing a better job of communicating these actions and why the decisions were made to the stakeholders involved. Precisely, we would like to have seen the proposal for the reduction in area committee meetings individually communicated to those involved in those area committees and those individuals given an opportunity to contribute their opinions beyond resorting to the general public consultation. In the last year this Council has been accused of a worrying lack of accountability. Considering that this specific proposal could be regarded as undermining the democratic process in local communities, would the Portfolio Holder not agree that individual consultations with Wards would have been appropriate?

CQ7

Question to be asked by Councillor Maria Watson of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

I’m sure I speak for everyone here when I say how disappointing it was to see the Police forced to break up crowds in Nottingham’s parks last week. After nearly a full year of lockdowns and restrictions, to still see people unable to follow the rules intended to keep us all safe is frankly disheartening. With the weather getting warmer, does the Leader consider it necessary for the Council to take extra steps to ensure we don’t see the kind of behaviour that could lead to further Lockdowns?

CQ8

Question to be asked by Councillor Chantal Lee of the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Highways and Strategic Transport at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

How will Nottingham be marking International Women’s Day given people are unable to get together in person?

CQ9

Question to be asked by Councillor Toby Neal of the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Democratic Services at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Can the Portfolio Holder for Energy, Environment and Democratic Services explain what work is taking place to ensure safety of voters and staff for the forthcoming Police and Crime Commissioner Elections?

CQ10

Question to be asked by Councillor Carole McCulloch of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

On 13 December 2019, Boris Johnson said, “And so I am announcing now – on the steps of Downing Street – that we will fix the crisis in social care once and for all, and with a clear plan we have prepared to give every older person the dignity and security they deserve.” Could the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Local Transport Council explain what progress the Prime Minister has made in bringing forward his plan and fulfilling his promise?

CQ11

Question to be asked by Councillor Nick Raine of the Leader of the Council at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Does the Leader agree that Nottingham’s key workers, the true heroes of the Covid pandemic deserve much, much better than a pay cut from the Chancellor?

Questions from Councillors requiring a written response

WQ1

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Schools and Communications at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Can the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of Council owned property (excluding housing stock) sold since November 2020, on a property by property basis and provide the sale consideration received against the last recorded book value?

WQ2

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Schools and Communications at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

The Portfolio Holder will be aware of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre's repeated statements about the freezing of non-essential Council spend. Could he therefore provide a breakdown of the top 10 items of non-essential spend cut from his Portfolio since the emergency budget last year?

WQ3

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

Could the Portfolio Holder provide a breakdown of the number of empty commercial properties in the City Centre on a month by month basis from March 2020 to February 2021 and what this equates to in terms of lost rates revenue?

WQ4

Written question to be asked by Councillor Andrew Rule of the Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and IT at the meeting of the City Council to be held on 8 March 2021

The Portfolio Holder will be aware of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Growth and the City Centre's repeated statements about the freezing of non-essential Council spend. Could he therefore provide a breakdown of the top 10 items of non-essential spend cut from this Portfolio since the emergency budget last year?
